

REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to the specification because of certain informalities as a result of the Amendment filed on 01 March 2005. Accordingly, the Applicant has amended the paragraph beginning on line 1 of page 5 of the application to correct these informalities.

Claims 22 and 24 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has rejected claim 21 and 23 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, claim 21 recited the, "hard magnetic material extending from the first shield to the second shield", the indefiniteness arising from the lack of a description of a first "shield" in the detailed description portion of the application, and also from the fact that the claim lacked antecedent basis for a "shield". The applicant has amended claims 21 and 24 to recite that the longitudinal bias layer extends from, "the first lead to the second lead". Support for the first and second "leads" can be found, for example, on page 14, line 2, and page 14, line 5 of the specification. Furthermore, antecedent basis for the first and second leads can be found on line 5 of claim 21 and on line 8 of claim 23.

The Examiner has rejected claim 21 and 23 as being anticipated by Miyauchi et al. (U.S. 2001/0021089). However, the examiner has also indicated that claim 22 which recited that the longitudinal bias layer includes a layer of nickel-oxide would be allowable, but for an obviousness type double patenting rejection that can be overcome by filing a terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, the Applicant has added the limitation from claim 22 that the longitudinal bias layer comprises nickel-oxide into claim 21 and 23. A terminal disclaimer, filed along with this amendment will overcome the provisional obviousness type double patenting rejection. Therefore, claim 21 and 23 as amended are patentable.


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The Applicant sincerely believes that the remaining claims in this application are allowable as amended. A notice of allowance is, therefore, requested. Should the Examiner wish to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorney at (408) 971-2573.

For payment of any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-2587 (Order No. SJ0920000096US5).

Respectfully submitted,

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